



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
NICOLE PARRA
Representing the 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

March 24, 2006

Hello Friends:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT

This week, the **Assembly** held its annual “**Woman of the Year**” event, during which I honored **Judith Horn** as the **30th Assembly District’s “Woman of the Year”** in a ceremony on the **Assembly Floor**. Honorees were also addressed and congratulated by **First Lady Maria Shriver**.

Judith Horn is the personification of service to one’s community. She is a shining example for us all to follow and I would like to wish her my most heartfelt congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Ms. Horn, a **Hanford** native, is the current **Community Director for the Kings Partnership for Children**. She is also a member of numerous community organizations including the **Lakeside School District Board**, the **Hanford Noon Kiwanis**, the **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)**, the **Hanford High School Superintendent’s Advisory Board**, the **Hanford Chamber of Commerce**, and the **Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**. **Ms. Horn** has been honored in the past as the **Kings County Sheriff’s Department Citizen of the Year**, the **Kings County Health Department Community Member of the Year**, and as a recipient of the “**Make A Difference**” Award from the **Kings County School Board Association**.

NOW, TO THE REST OF THE WEEK IN SACRAMENTO

Starting out the week, I met with representatives from the **Valley Regional Occupational Program (VROP)** to discuss legislation affecting regional occupational programs, state funding levels for such programs, and the Governor’s career technology initiative. The **VROP** made the trip to Sacramento to also attend a legislative forum hosted by the **California Association of Regional Occupational Centers and Programs (CAROCP)**.

For more information on the **CAROCP** and other regional occupational programs, please visit <http://www.carocp.org>

I also took some time to meet with a group of alumni and friends of **California State University, Fresno**. The group provided me with information on the **new doctorate in Education program** at the university and gave me an update on construction of the **Madden Library**. We also discussed some of the issues surrounding and challenges facing higher education in California.

To find out more about what is going at **CSU Fresno**, please check out their web site at www.csufresno.edu/

Staying on the theme of higher education, I had the chance to sit down with the **President of California State University, Bakersfield, Dr. Horace Mitchell**. **Dr. Mitchell** updated me on the university’s exciting new capital campaign for facilities construction. It is expected that these new facilities will increase the student capacity from the current number of 8,000 to 18,000. We also discussed preserving state funding levels for state universities

and re-incorporating \$7 million in the **Governor's May Revise Budget** for **CSU Outreach** programs.

To learn more about the goings on at **CSU Bakersfield**, please access their web site at www.csub.edu/

Representatives from the **California Cattlemen's Association (CCA)** paid me a visit to discuss legislative subjects and some of the challenges to this industry.

The **California Cattlemen's Association** was formed in 1917. **CCA** is a non-profit trade association representing California's ranchers and beef producers in legislative and regulatory affairs.

To read more about this organization and the industry, please have a look at their web site at <http://www.calcattlemen.org/>

I also sat in on a hearing of the **Assembly Budget Sub 4 Committee**, of which I am member. This committee presides over issues relating to judicial and criminal justice, general government, and resources. During this hearing we discussed a number of topics including the **California Small Business Loan Guarantee Program**, the **California Film Commission**, the **Seismic Safety Commission**, and the **Bureau of State Audits**.

Later in the week, I met with **Community Services and Employment Training, Inc. (CSET)** from **Goshen**. Specifically, 23 young men and women joined me from **CSET's Junior Leadership Institute** to discuss employment development and community service issues.

For additional information on **CSET**, please glance at their web site <http://www.cset.org/>

Toward the end of the week, I spent some time meeting with members of the **Fresno** and **Madera County Farm Bureaus**. I had the opportunity to discuss legislative issues and some of the challenges facing the farming industry with **Ryan Jacobsen (Fresno Issues Coordinator)**, **Keith Nilmeier (Fresno Energy Chair)**, **Russel Efird (Fresno 2nd Vice-President)**, and **Phil Janzen (Madera Board Member)**.

I encourage you to have a look at the work being done by these organizations for farmers by checking the web sites of the **California** and **Fresno County Farm Bureaus** at <http://www.cfbf.com/> and <http://www.fcfb.org/>, respectively.

At the end of the week, my **Assembly** colleagues and I voted for **House Resolution 28**, a resolution offering condolences and paying tribute to the heroism of fallen **California Highway Patrol** officers. **Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez** presented the resolution to the **CHP** on the floor of the **Assembly**.

In the 77-year history of the **CHP**, 209 officers have been killed in the line of duty, including six in the past five months – **Officer David M. Romero**, **Officer Andrew Stevens**, **Officer Erick Manny**, **Lieutenant Michael Walker**, **Officer Earl Scott**, and **Officer Gregory Bailey**.

During the **Assembly** floor session, **Speaker Núñez** took up **Assembly House Resolution 28**, which is an acknowledgement of the **Assembly's** sincere gratitude for the critical services that **CHP** officers provide.

The resolution also discusses legislators' appreciation for the continued professionalism and dedication of **CHP** officers even in difficult times of loss.

To read **House Resolution 28**, please access my web site (check under "News") <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

ONGOING ACTIVITY

When you have some free time, please join **Pastor Jordan**, **Isiah Crompton**, and other community members in their effort to get out the message about stopping violence in our communities. They walk from house to house every Saturday, knocking on doors and explaining to people the importance of keeping an eye on and working against violence in our neighborhoods. I would like to invite everyone, from individuals, to families, to groups of

friends, and any concerned organizations to join us in making our streets safer for our families and our children. For more information on the **Stop the Violence** campaign, please contact **Pastor Jordan at (661) 472-2637**.

COMMUNITY GROUP HIGHLIGHT

The **California Coalition for Youth's (CCY)** mission is to be the **PLACE** that improves and empowers the lives of California's youth by:

- Partnering with youth
- Linking with youth-serving programs throughout California
- Advocating for youth rights
- Connecting youth to resources
- Educating communities, policymakers, and stakeholders

The **CCY** also coordinates a statewide, toll free, 24-hour, confidential phone crisis line available to young people between the ages of 12-24, and concerned friends and family members. **CCY** provides crisis intervention counseling on many issues including family problems, sexual assault, eating disorders, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, suicide and more. **CCY** offers support, encouragement, and referrals to youth needing assistance or in crisis situations. The **California Youth Crisis Line** connects an average of 12,000 callers with vital resources annually. Agencies as well as young adults from every county in California use the **Crisis Line's toll-free number, 1-800-843-5200**.

COMMUNITY GROUP HIGHLIGHT

The **California Youth Connection (CYC)** is a statewide organization comprised of foster youth, both past and present, who work diligently in formulating policies and advocating for legislation on behalf of California's foster youth population.

For more information on **CYC**, please visit their web site at <http://www.calyouthconn.org/site/cyc/> or simply call **CYC's** statewide office at 415-442-5060.

NEED HOMEWORK HELP?

The **California State Library** has made available through their website a new service called **Live Homework Help**. This service enables students to connect on-line with a tutor for assistance with homework questions. Supported by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) federal funding, students can access Live Homework Help through [28 California public libraries](#). It is important to note that the tutors who respond to student questions are screened, trained, and closely monitored.

Live Homework Help is easy! Log on to <http://www.library.ca.gov/tutor/> from your computer any time between **1:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.** and follow the simple setup instructions.

******THIS WEEK'S INTERESTING LINKS FOR KIDS******

For a list of recommended reading materials for children, please check the web site of the **California Department of Education** <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/rl/ll/>. **Recommended Literature: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve** is a collection of outstanding literature for children and adolescents. The recommended titles reflect the quality and the complexity of the types of material students should be reading at school and outside of class.

The **U.S. Department of Education** operates a web site titled **Federal Resources for Educational Excellence**. This is a great resource for children to learn about a number of different subjects, ranging from art to mathematics, and foreign language to science, and many more interesting fields. To visit this web site, please go to <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/cfapps/free/displaysubject.cfm?aud=1>.

******THIS WEEK'S GENERAL INTEREST LINKS******

If you would like to find out more about available adult education opportunities provided by the **State Department of Education**, please check out <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ae/>. The **California Department of Education** provides educational services to two million students every year via public adult schools, community

colleges, libraries, community and faith-based organizations, and correctional institutions.

To find out information about job training and employment education opportunities, I encourage you to visit **California's One-Stop Career Center** at <http://www.edd.ca.gov/ONE-STOP/default.htm>. This is a fabulous resource in searching out supportive services on the local, state, and federal levels.

MEETING REQUESTS

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my **Executive Secretary Ellen Manolis** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Ellen.Manolis@asm.ca.gov.

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the fall internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley. Applications can be found by going to: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Matt Rogers** at (559) 585-7170 or by e-mail at Matt.Rogers@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Paula DeLaRiva** at (661) 334-3745 or by e-mail at Paula.DeLaRiva@asm.ca.gov.

For Sacramento office internships contact **Brandon Sanders** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Brandon.Sanders@asm.ca.gov.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1629: The first game law was passed in the American colonies, by Virginia.

1765: Britain passed the Quartering Act that required the American colonies to house 10,000 British troops in public and private buildings.

1900: In New Jersey, the Carnegie Steel Corporation was formed.

1905: In Crete, a group led by Eleutherios Venizelos claimed independence from Turkey.

1924: Greece became a republic.

1947: The U.S. Congress proposed the limitation of the presidency to two terms.

Bakersfield Office:

601 24th St.,
Suite A
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone: (661) 334-3745
Fax: (661) 334-3796

Hanford Office:

321 N. Douty St.,
Suite B
Hanford, CA 93230
Phone: (559) 585-7170
Fax: (559) 585-7175

Capitol Office:

State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249
Phone: (916) 319-2030
Fax: (916) 319-2130

Email: Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov
Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

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